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PART - I

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GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY **DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

No. 1401/DM/RO/D2/GEHP/2016.

Puducherry, the 4th March 2016.

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Election Commission of India has issued instructions for prevention of defacement of property and other campaign related items for the smooth and fair conduct of elections by maintaining law and order under control, and those instructions are to be complied with letter and spirit by all concerned;

And whereas, in view of the forthcoming General Elections to the Puducherry Legislative Assembly, 2016 and in order to ensure, holding free and fair elections and level playing field to all political parties/candidates, the Election Commission of India has reiterated that no political party/association/body or candidates or their workers or supporters or sympathizers shall deface or spoil any private or public premises, halls/auditoriums, other public properties, vehicles and other campaign related items by pasting posters, writing slogans, painting symbols, putting-up arches, banners, hoardings, affixtures, erections, paintings, etc., in any public place and also in private properties open to public view;

And whereas, the Lieutenant-Governor, Puducherry is satisfied that it is necessary and expedient in public interest that for the abovesaid reasons and for the purpose of preventing defacement, all political/election-related advertisements in public and private places open to public view shall be prohibited in the whole of the Union territory of Puducherry;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 4 of the Puducherry Open Places (Prevention of Disfigurement) Act, 2000 (Act No. 6 of 2000). the Lieutenant-Governor, Puducherry, hereby directs that on and from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, no person shall impair or interfere with the appearance and beauty or damage, disfigure, erect, fix, spoil or injure in any manner or deface any place open to public view in the whole of the Union territory of Puducherry by writing or marking with ink, chalk, paint or any other material for the purpose of political propaganda and electioneering till the completion of the General Elections to Puducherry Legislative Assembly, 2016. However, programmes conducted by the Government under Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) for election purpose are hereby exempted from this notification.

(By order of the Lieutenant-Governor)

Dr. S. Sundaravadivelu, I.A.s., Secretary to Government.